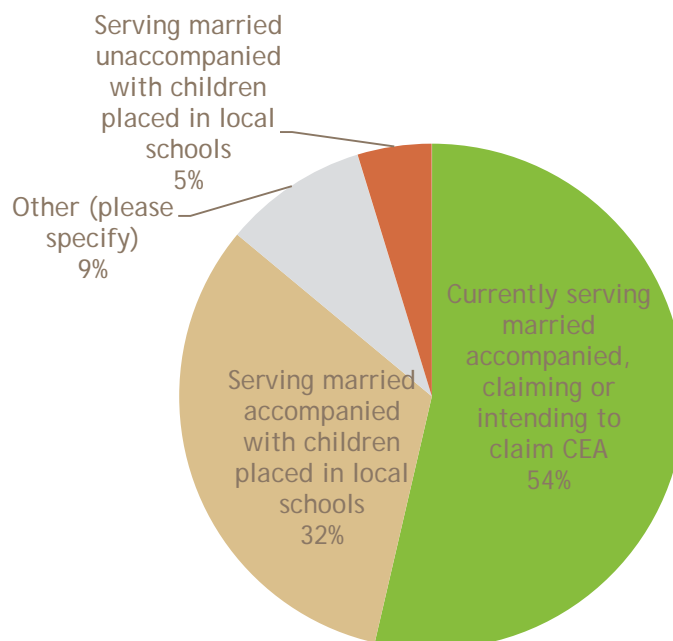




AFF Stability V Mobility Survey September 2011

Q1 Are you:



Q2 Why have you chosen your particular option?

Married unaccompanied

"Having taught in an Army secondary school, and witnessed at first hand the real distress that children go through when their parent is posted and the child has had to leave their friends, I do not want my children to go through that. Neither do I want to feel compelled to have to put my children into boarding school if this isn't the right educational setting for them. While serving married unaccompanied really isn't much fun, at least it offers my husband and I the opportunity to provide as much stability as possible for the children, a thing that we really prize now that so much seems up in the air in the Army"

Married accompanied claiming CEA

“As a couple we weighed up our choices which we saw as two - settle in our own home or keep moving and use CEA. For us we choose the latter option for the following reasons. Firstly, my husband and I got married to live together and in our view separation for the majority of the week weakens our marriage which is the basis of our family unit. Secondly, when we met and married he was already a serving soldier and I agreed that he should be the main wage earner in our partnership and that to do this fully and successfully with our all-encompassing lifestyle my daily support crucial. Thirdly, whilst we do move frequently and now have both our children in boarding school the support that the military housing "patch" offers cannot be overestimated, and this is for all members of the family including the children when they are at home. Fourthly, with frequent tours and exercises the children when in boarding school are much more protected from the full emotional impact”

Married accompanied -children at local schools

“For us as a family, we feel that the most important thing is to be together as much as we possibly can, our daughter has moved schools frequently but we have always found that support is there for her to catch up on any areas she has missed, she now has friends based all over the country and is more adaptable and friendly than she would have otherwise have been. Most importantly, when my husband is not on exercise or deployed, we all live together and have a strong family bond because of that. If the option to serve married accompanied is removed, my husband has said he will leave the Army”